
Joint Town and County Council Minutes
Wednesday, June 5, 2023, 6:00 PM
Town Council Chambers
274 Main Street
Antigonish, NS

Present:

Warden Owen McCarron
Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart
Councillor Shawn Brophy
Councillor John Dunbar
Councillor Remi Deveaux
Councillor Mary MacLellan
Councillor Donnie MacDonald
Councillor Gary Mattie
Councillor Harris McNamara

Mayor Laurie Boucher
Deputy Mayor Willie Cormier
Councillor Sean Cameron
Councillor Andrew Murray
Councillor Mary Farrell
Councillor Donnie MacInnis
Councillor Diane Roberts

Glenn Horne, CAO, County of
Antigonish
Beth Schumacher, Deputy Clerk
Marlene Melanson, Recreation Director
Tammy Feltmate, Director of Community
Development

Jeff Lawrence, CAO, Town of
Antigonish
Dianne Wilson, Deputy Clerk, Recording
Secretary
Kate MacInnis, Director, Community
Development
Lise Roy, Strategic Initiatives
Maria Fraser

Also Present:

Delegates: Antigonish Heritage Museum, People for an Antigonish Recreation Centre,
Antigonish Regional Emergency Measures Organization

Absent with Regret: Councillor Bill MacFarlane

Call to Order

The Joint Town and County Council Committee was called to order by the Chair, Mayor Laurie Boucher at 6:00 PM. Mayor Laurie Boucher and Warden Owen McCarron welcomed everyone in attendance to the meeting.

Approval of March 22, 2022, Council Minutes

Moved by Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Seconded by Councillor Shawn Brophy

“To approve the Joint Council Minutes of March 22, 2022 as amended.”

Motion carried.

Business Arising

There was no Business arising from the Minutes.

Presentations

Antigonish Heritage Association

Barry MacKenzie introduced himself at the podium and thanked Councils for the opportunity to appear before them.

Councils were provided with a brief history of the Town and County via a short film by Peter Murphy featuring Paq'tnkek, European settlers (Acadians, Heirely, black loyalists, Scottish Highlanders, St. F.X. University, Congregation of Notre Dame, Sisters of St. Martha, Father Moses Coady/Jimmy Tompkins (Cooperative Movement) and others.

He noted they were attempting to capture as much of the area in a short time-frame, while trying to highlight what is offered in the locally with the idea of continuing with new short-films of the area.

Barry MacKenzie noted that this is a snapshot of the things that are being done at the Antigonish Heritage Museum.

Mayor Laurie Boucher thanked Barry MacKenzie and he responded to questions from Council, confirming that the intent is to focus on various areas of Antigonish.

At 6:19 Barry MacKenzie concluded his presentation and vacated the podium.

People for an Antigonish Recreation Centre (PARC)

Dr. Jane Howard and Adam Baden-Clay introduced themselves at the podium and provided Councils with details on a feasibility study for a proposed recreation centre on behalf of PARC.

The delegates expanded on their conversations with other community members and ongoing discussion and meetings for the development of a recreation centre for the community. They noted discussions included representation from all voices and town and county recreation departments, noting a common thread and shared belief in healthy lifestyles and appealing and attracting newcomers.

Adam Baden-Clay flagged comments from various documents supporting a community centre, noting they are proposing to build on existing assets and remove gaps and barriers that currently exist. The delegates presented their Vision.

The delegates who then responded to questions from Councils and concluded their presentation with thanks from Mayor L. Boucher and Warden Owen McCarron. The delegates vacated the podium at 6:47 PM

Antigonish Regional Emergency Measures Organization (AREMO) Update – Blaise MacDonald

Blaise MacDonald, AREMO Director, took to the podium, introduced himself noting he would be providing a status update. Blaise MacDonald spoke on the collaboration with EMO and a regional approach for comfort centres and emergency shelters. A PowerPoint presentation was made, along with comments on recent training that staff, RCMP, fire departments, and ST. FX. University have taken part in.

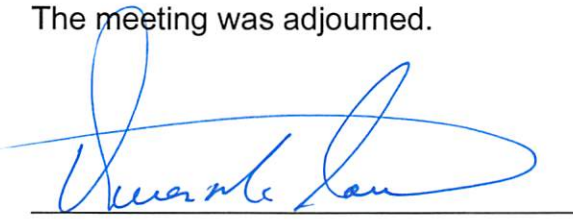
Blaise MacDonald expanded on the training and exercises that were held and partnerships with various stakeholders from within the community. Details were provided on existing and proposed comfort and emergency centres. He noted Memorandum's of Understanding have been developed and are being reviewed. Council was advised that over \$400,000 in funding for generators was approved for this region.

Blaise MacDonald stated the need for comfort and emergency shelters for the area and recommend that the Town and County approve the adoption of twenty-two (22) comfort centres and two (2) emergency centres as presented.

At 7:22 PM Blaise MacDonald concluded his presentation and called for questions from Council. Brief discussion took place, and it was noted that there is an existing emergency management agreement in place between the Town, County and St. F.X. University. Warden Owen McCarron thanked Blaise MacDonald for his presentation and thanked him for his efforts to date. Mayor Laurie Boucher reiterated the Warden's comments.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.



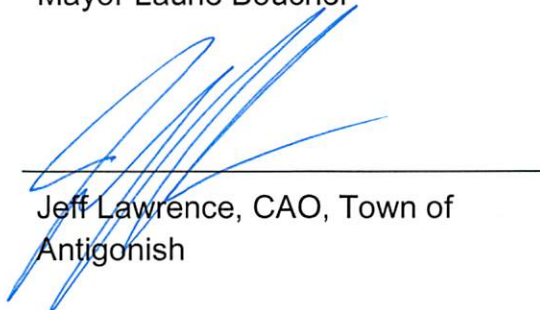
Warden Owen McCarron



Mayor Laurie Boucher



Glenn Horne, CAO, County of Antigonish



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